

Applications for Membership

Applications for membership in the Association are available online at www.aats.org. Interested applicants are encouraged to review the membership requirements and guidelines on the AATS Website. To apply for membership,

a member of the Association must act as the primary sponsor by initiating the application process in the Members Only area of the AATS Website.

Applications must be received by **November 30, 2008** for consideration. All applications received after the deadline will be deferred automatically until 2009.

The Western Thoracic Surgical Association

Announcement of 2009 Annual Meeting

The Thirty-fifth Annual Meeting of the Western Thoracic Surgical Association will be held June 24-27, 2009 at the Fairmont Banff Springs in Banff, Alberta, Canada. The scientific sessions are open to all duly qualified physicians. Participation in other Association activities for members, invited guests, and program participants requires payment of a social registration fee.

Requests for Meeting Information

Meeting preregistration and hotel registration forms are available from:

Western Thoracic Surgical Association
900 Cummings Center
Suite 221-U
Beverly, MA 01915
978-927-8330; fax: 978-524-8890
wtsa@prri.com

Material for the Program

Scientific papers will be considered from members and non-members. Member sponsorship is not necessary.

All abstracts must be submitted electronically via www.westernthoracic.org. The abstract deadline is Friday, January 9, 2009.

Application for Membership

Applications for membership in the Association must be received by the Membership Committee Chair no later than March 1, 2009 to be considered at the 2009 Annual Meeting. Applicants must be sponsored by three members of the Association who are not members of the Membership Committee. Application forms will be issued only to sponsoring members.

Address correspondence to:
Chair, Membership Committee
The Western Thoracic Surgical Association
900 Cummings Center
Suite 221-U
Beverly, MA 01915
978-927-8330; fax: 978-524-8890
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The American Board of Thoracic Surgery

Notices

The part I (written) examination was held on December 3. It is planned that this examination will be given at multiple sites throughout the United States using an electronic format. The closing date for registration is August 1 each year. Those wishing to be considered for examination must apply online at www.abts.org.

To be admissible for the Part II (oral) examination, a candidate must have successfully completed the Part I (written) examination.

A candidate applying for admission to the certifying examination must fulfill all the requirements of the Board in force at the time the application is received. Please address all communications to the American Board of Thoracic Surgery, 633 North St Clair Street, Suite 2320, Chicago, IL 60611 (telephone: 312-202-5900).

Requirements for Maintenance of Certification

Diplomates of the American Board of Thoracic Surgery (ABTS) who plan to participate in the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) process must hold an unrestricted medical license in the locale of their practice and privileges in a hospital accredited by the JCAHO (or other organization recognized by the ABTS). In addition, a valid ABTS certificate is an absolute requirement for entrance into the Maintenance of Certification process. If your certificate has expired, the only pathway for renewal of a certificate is to take and pass the Part I (written) and the Part II (oral) certifying examinations.

The names of individuals who have not maintained their certificate will no longer be published in the American Board of Medical Specialties Directories. Diplomates' names will be published upon successful completion of the Maintenance of Certification process.

The CME requirements are 30 Category I credits earned during each year prior to application. At least half of these